



Enclosure 4

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JAN 06 2011

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

mailcode E-19J

Marisol R. Simon  
Regional Administrator, Region V  
Federal Transit Administration  
200 West Adams Street, Suite 320  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-5253

**RE: Invitation to be a Participating Agency for the FTA proposed Tier I EIS on a Chicago CTA Red and Purple Lines Modernization Project, Belmont to Linden**

Dear Ms. Simon:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 (U.S. EPA) has received your invitation letter regarding the above project on January 6, 2011. Because the U.S. EPA has expertise concerning the nation's natural resources and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents, we do have an interest in this project.

Pursuant to the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and in keeping with our responsibilities under the NEPA and Section 309 of the Clean Water Act, we accept the invitation to participate in this project, to the degree time and resources permit. We were not aware of the earlier vision study process which has apparently produced some materials for this project. We would appreciate receiving such materials as appropriate. Our participation in this project will specifically include to:

1. Provide meaningful early input to defining the purpose and need; range of alternatives; methodologies and level of detail for alternatives analysis;
2. Participate in coordination meetings, conference calls and joint field reviews as appropriate;
3. Provide timely review and comment on pre-draft and subsequent environmental documents; and
4. Participate in other activities as deemed significant and as resources permit, determined on a case-by-case basis.

We look forward to reviewing any NEPA documents and related information for this project. If you have any questions about our review process, please contact Norm West of my staff at (312)-353-5692 or at [west.norman@epa.gov](mailto:west.norman@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth A. Westlake", written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth A. Westlake  
Chief, NEPA Implementation Section  
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Cc: Steve Hands,  
Strategic Planning and Policy  
Chicago Transit Authority  
P.O. Box 7602  
Chicago, Illinois 60680-7602